

Application No.: 10/547,681

Docket No.: 4390-0108PUS1

REMARKS

The Examiner has made a requirement for restriction between the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 62-82, 84-86, 89-95 and 97-99, drawn to an analysis-chip comprising at least one reactor including at least one probe-ligand, a region accommodating the probe-ligand and a hydrophobic convex;

Group II: Claims 83 and 87, drawn to an analysis-chip comprising at least one reactor including at least one probe-ligand, a region accommodating the probe-ligand and a convex flow-path; and

Group III: Claim 88, drawn to an analysis-chip comprising at least one reactor including at least one probe-ligand, a region accommodating the probe-ligand and a marking system convex.

In order to comply with the Examiner's Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, directed to claims 62-82, 84-86, 89-95 and 97-99, for prosecution in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional application directed to the non-elected claims at a later date, if so desired.

This requirement for restriction is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

The Examiner indicates that the only technical feature common for the inventions is a reactor comprising a probe-ligand and a region accommodating the probe-ligand. The Examiner alleges that this feature does not contribute any novelty over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that it is premature to make any discussion regarding what features contribute to novelty to the claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this restriction requirement are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable action on the present application is earnestly solicited.

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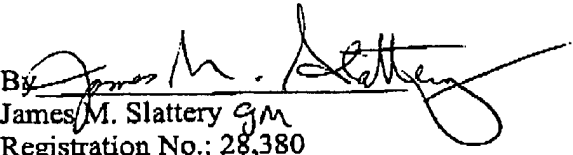
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If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Chris McDonald, Registration No. 41,533, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 14, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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